## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06484 090726Z

54

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 /014 W

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R 081554Z JUL 75 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 089 INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EAGR, EIND, DM, NI

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: NIGERIAN INVESTMENT IN

SAVE SUGAR MILL, DAHOMEY

REFS: STATE 125425, 148916, 155385

- 1. AS REPORTED LAGOS 0134, LANG ENGINEERING REPRESENTATIVE LEONARD LANGELEND ON JANUARY 3, 1975, SAW GILBERT O. OBATOYINBO, UNDER-SECRETARY, TEXTILES AND AGRO-ALLIED DIVISION, FEDERAL MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR NIGERIAN PARTICIPATION IN SAVE SUGAR PROJECT. OBATOYINBO TOLD LANGELAND THAT FMG WAS COMMITTED TO FINANCE 40 PERCENT OF PROJECT AND THAT HE WOULD BE ATTENDING EXPERTS MEETING IN DAHOMEY IN MID-JANUARY. (SEE COTONOU 0012 FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS).
- 2. GENERAL GOWON VISITED DAHOMEY JANUARY 7-8, AND HE AND PRESIDENT KEREKOU CREATED JOINT COMMISSION TO MEET PERIODICALLY AND REVIEW ALL ASPECTS OF NIGERIA-DAHOMEY COOPERATION. (SEE COTONOU 0039 AND LAGOS 0304.) TO EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE, COMMISSION HAS NOT YET MET. ITS MEMBERS WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE REPRESENTATIVES OF RELEVANT MINISTRIES, INCLUDING INDUSTRIES.
- 3. THIRD NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PLAN RELEASED MARCH 29 INDICATES FMG INTENTION TO INVEST IN THE DAHOMEAN PROJECT. IN THE MANY PAGES PUBLISHED ABOUT THE PLAN DURING APRIL, ONE OR MORE NIGERIAN NEWSPAPERS MAY WELL HAVE MENTIONED IT, BUT EMBASSY HAS NOT NOTICED AND FILED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ANY OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE OR NEWSPAPER ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING

## SAVE PROJECT SINCE THE GOWON VISIT.

4. THE PLAN DOES NOT MENTION SAVE BY NAME BUT SAYS "THE EXACT SITE AND CAPACITY OF THE PROJECT WILL BE DETERMINED AS SOON AS THE DETAILED STUDIES ARE COMPLETED" AND THAT "A PILOT SCHEME FOR THE PROJECT IS ALREADY IN PROGRESS."

NOMINAL ALLOCATION OF NIGERIAN FUNDS TOTALS 18 MILLION NAIRA WITH 500,000 NAIRA IN FY 1975-76, 3.5 MILLION NAIRA IN 1976-77, 4

MILLION NAIRA IN 1977-78, 5 MILLION NAIRA IN 1978-79, AND 5 MILLION NAIRA IN 1979-80. (NAIRA (N) CURRENTLY EQUALS \$1.64.)

5. EMBASSY CANNOT FIND CHESHES/ECON SECTION EMB LAGOS MEMO OF APRIL 21 WHICH WAS CITED BY COTONOU 0716, BUT RESPONSIBLE EMBOFF ON LEAVE.
EASUM

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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Subject: MAJOR PROJECT: NIGERIAN INVESTMENT IN SAVE SUGAR MILL, DAHOMEY

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